

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, 12 and 16 as follows:

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1. (Amended) A method for use in a mobile user station of a packet-based multiaccess communications system, comprising the steps of:

assigning an address to the mobile user station, the address being a combination of an identifier of the mobile user station and an identifier of a network node in the communications system with which the mobile user station is currently associated; and

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transferring packets to and from the mobile user station in accordance with the address, such that a network node in the communications system is not required to obtain additional address information to direct a packet to and from the mobile user station.

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2. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of assigning another address to the mobile user station ~~when the station becomes associated with another network node of the communications system, the other address being a combination of the identifier of the mobile user station and an identifier of the other network node.~~

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6. (Amended) Apparatus in a packet-based multiaccess communications system, comprising:
a mobile user station configured to respond to an address assigned to the mobile user station, the address being a combination of an identifier of the mobile user station and an identifier of a network node in the communications system with which the mobile user station is currently associated such that packets are transferred to and from the mobile user station in accordance with the address and a network node in the communications system is not required to obtain additional address information to direct a packet to and from the mobile user station.

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7. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 6, wherein the mobile user station is further configured to respond to another address assigned to the mobile user station when the station becomes associated with another network node of the communications system, the other address being a combination of the identifier of the mobile user station and an identifier of the other network node.

11. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 6, wherein the mobile user station is further configured for supporting a protocol layer, the protocol layer being located above a medium access control layer in a protocol stack associated with the communications system and providing support to applications associated with the communications system with respect to the mobility of the user station.

12. (Amended) A method for use in a network node of a packet-based multiaccess communications system, the communications system including a plurality of mobile user stations, comprising the steps of:

assigning an address to the network node, the address being a combination of an identifier of the network node and an identifier of an interface associated with the network node; and

transferring packets to and from the network node in accordance with the address, such that the network node is able to move within the communications system in addition to the plurality of mobile user stations.

16. (Amended) Apparatus in a packet-based multiaccess communications system, the communications system including a plurality of mobile user stations, comprising:

a network node configured to respond to an address assigned to the network node, the address being a combination of an identifier of the network node and an identifier of an interface associated with the network node such that packets are transferred to and from the network node in accordance with the address, and the network node is able to move within the communications system in addition to the plurality of mobile user stations.